

# SWOSU Hosting ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Science Camp

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford will be a location for one of the 25 ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camps held across the United States this summer.

The primary goal of the camps is to expose students from culturally under-represented groups to the possibility of careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. The SWOSU camp will be held July 13-25 and accommodate up to 48 middle school students from the area.

The two-week residential camp will offer innovative programs to enhance middle school students' knowledge in science, technology, engineering and mathematics while encouraging youth to stay in school and develop their leadership potential and citizenship skills. In addition, camp programs will expose students to campus life; improve their abilities to successfully complete university programs in STEM disciplines; and enrich the math and science teacher/educator expertise in science, engineering and technology.

"SWOSU is honored to be chosen as one of the universities to host this esteemed science camp," said camp director Wayne Trail. "We believe this is a great opportunity to generate interest in the math and science fields among today's youth and prepare them to succeed in these subjects at the high school and collegiate levels. This will be a fun and exciting summer as we develop the future scientists and engineers of America and also give them a first-hand look at college life."

Unlike most summer camps, there is no fee required to attend the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp. Young people who are academically qualified, recommended by their teachers and genuinely interested in math and science can be rewarded with the opportunity to attend these fun and educational camps at no cost.

SWOSU will be accepting applications for the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp through June 13. Specifically, at SWOSU there will be classes in robotics, rocketry, biology, wind energy, and more.

"At SWOSU we'll build and program robots, build and launch robots, build and operate windmills, and much more," Trail said.

Interested students can contact Trail at 580.774.3124 or e-mail [wayne.trail@swosu.edu](mailto:wayne.trail@swosu.edu) for an application.

Repeated studies have shown that the United States faces a critical shortage of engineers, scientists and other mathematics- and science-literate workers. Through numerous efforts, ExxonMobil is supporting programs and organizations that focus on improving mathematics and science education from pre-school through higher education.

"Science, technology, engineering and mathematics are critical elements to our nation's economic, security and medical advancements in the 21st century and beyond. Preserving our nation as the world leader in these fields requires an investment in our

youth today,” said Dr. Harris, veteran of two space shuttle mission and the first African-American to walk in space. “We are glad to extend this opportunity to SWOSU and appreciate their eagerness to support our program’s efforts in encouraging students to reach higher standards of achievement.”